## STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DARRELL V. MCGRAW, JR. CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION 1-800-368-8808 or 304-558-8986

## Press Release

June 23, 2003

Court Orders National Check Control, A New Jersey-Based Collection Agency, To Stop Doing Business In West Virginia

On June 19, 2003, Kanawha County Circuit Court Judge Paul Zakaib, Jr., granted the Attorney General's request for an injunction and ordered Check Investors, Inc., Barry Sussman, Charles T. Hutchins, and Wayne Krause (doing business as "National Check Control") to stop collecting debts in West Virginia pending the final hearing in the matter. The defendants did not appear in person or by counsel at the hearing.

Judge Zakaib also ordered National Check Control to fully comply with the Attorney General's investigative subpoena, to return any monies collected from consumers since the filing of the suit, and to post a surety bond equal to the total amount collected in West Virginia since it began doing business here.

The Court's Order also requires National Check Control to make a full disclosure of all its collection activities in West Virginia, including all collection contacts with consumers, all amounts demanded and collected, and an itemization that specifies the face value of any alleged bad checks it demanded or collected from consumers, and any bad check or collection fees it added on.

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